

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 16-18 remain in the application. Claims 15 and 19-22 are hereby canceled without prejudice to facilitate issuance of a Notice of Allowance on the allowable subject matter. Claims 1, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, and 16 are hereby amended. No new matter is being added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Original claims 4-7, 9, 10, and 15-18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are hereby amended so as to put them in allowable form.

Claim 1 is hereby amended so as to include the allowable subject matter of original claim 7 (no intervening claims). Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is now in form for allowance. Claims 2-3 and 8 depend from amended claim 1 and hence are now also in form for allowance.

Claim 4 (with allowable subject matter) is hereby amended so as to include the limitations of base original claim 1 (no intervening claims). Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 4 is now in form for allowance. Claims 5-7 depend from amended claim 4 and hence are now also in form for allowance.

Claims 9 and 10 (each with allowable subject matter) are each hereby amended so as to include the limitations of base original claim 1 and intervening

original claim 8. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 9 and 10 are now in form for allowance.

Claim 11 is hereby amended so as to include the allowable subject matter of original claim 15 (no intervening claims). Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 11 is now in form for allowance. Claims 12-14 and 16-18 depend from amended claim 11 and hence are now also in form for allowance.

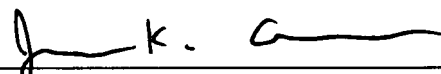
Conclusion

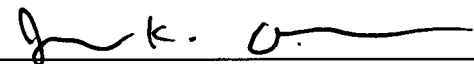
For at least the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now in form for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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